News Notes

from the COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.
257 FOURTH AVENUE NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

addressed to those who are concerned with Christianity and Higher Education

Volume V, Number 22 September, 1959

For those concerned with Christian Faith and Higher Education the most exciting news is the final consumation of a merger that brings together in a single movement known as the NATIONAL STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION, the Student Volunteer Movement, the United Student Christian Council, the Interseminary Movement and the Committee for Ecumenical Voluntary Service Projects. NSCF came into being by an unanimous vote of representatives of these movements gathered in Assembly at Oberlin, Sunday, September 6th. At this time an agreed upon Constitution and Bylaws was adopted. Rev. Philip Zabriskie of the Protestant Episcopal Church preached the sermon at the opening service of dedication, Valdo Galland of the World Student Christian Federation, R. H. Edwin Espy, Associate General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, and Scott Anderson of the Student Movement spoke at the celebration banquet Saturday evening and at the Sunday service of worship, Bishop Roger Blanchard of the Protestant Episcopal Church presided and Valdo Galland of the WSCF preached the sermon.

S. V. M.

U. S. C. C.

I. S. M.

As described in the working paper, "The NSCF is a new expression and instrument of the Ecumenical concern for the churches life and mission present in the American Student Christian community. It offers itself as an organization seeking to help American Students to witness together to Jesus Christ in the campus and to work for the mission and unity of the church in the world."

Become

the

NATIONAL

STUDENT

CHRISTIAN

FEDERATION

The NSCF will be a related movement of the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches through its Commission on Higher Education. Behind this merger lies more than two years of discussion and negotiation in which the three movements sought to harmonize their call to obedience to the will of God for their particular responsibilities with their call to obedience to His will for united effort and for Protestantism's total concerns in the field of Higher Education. Discussions will, no doubt, continue and difficult problems arise, but they will do so within the context of a unity and an avowed determination to work together for a common purpose that both includes and goes beyond the historic concerns of the three Movements.

The first officers of the NSCF were elected as follows:

President - Allan Burry Vice President - Rowenna Richards
Secretary - Shirley Caldwell Chairman of Central Committee - John Deschner
General Secretary - Herluf Jensen Associate Gen. Sec. - Douglas W. Cook

The Assembly voted to request the present members of the staff of the three Movements to continue in their work in the new Federation for a period of one year during which time a permanent personnel committee will make an analysis of the program and staff needs and recommend permanent staff appointments.

Officers of NSCF will be on the seventh floor of the new Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, New York.

Some 80 to 100 Public Relations and Development Officers of Church Colleges attended the one-day conference held at French Lick, Indiana, July 12th, 1959. Edward D. Eddy, Vice President and Provost of the University of New Hampshire spoke on "Things We Should Know About Today's Students" and Landrum R. Bolling President of Earlham College spoke on "So Your College is Christian." This was followed by a panel discussion in which Dr. Eddy; Dr. Bolling;Robert Long, Dean of Students at Wittenburg College; and Frank Ashmore, Director of Public Relations of Randolph Macon Women's College participated. Enthusiastic reports indicated that it was a most worthwhile day. Copies of the addresses and the worship meditation are available.

CHURCH COLLEGE P-R OFFICERS CONFERENCE

September 25th is the approximate date set for moving to the new quarters in the Interchurch Center on Riverside Drive. Here, for the first time, all the offices of the National Council of Churches will be together in one building and will also have in the same building some of the agencies and units of some of the churches. After October when we've got somewhat settled down, we invite all our friends who come to New York to pay us a visit in the new quarters. The address - 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, New York.

NEW HEADQUARTERS

New Executive Director for the Interseminary Committee, though now working as a staff member of the National Student Christian Federation will be William E. Crews. "Bill" Crews is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, Church Divinity School of the Pacific and has been serving churches of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Oklahoma. He has been active in the Interseminary movement, having served as President of the West Coast Regional Office and attended the Oberlin Triennial in 1957 as well as being a steward in the Faith and Order Conference. We are happy to welcome Bill to the Commission and at the same time congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Crews on the arrival of a baby girl, Friday, September 4th.

INTERSEMINARY EXECUTIVE

We are also happy to welcome to the staff of the National Council, Dr. William B. Rogers, the new Director of the University Christian Mission. Dr. Rogers comes with an excellent background. He was President of the Student Body at Davidson College, has a Th.D. in Christian ethics and psychoanalytic theory, served for 18 months in the Southwest Pacific as a combat fighter pilot, having received the Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal and four clusters. He has been chaplain at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia and then chaplain to Presbyterian students and teachers of religion at North Texas State College and Texas Woman's University. He brings to New York his wife and three year old son.

ROGERS TO U. C. M.

We have no way of keeping informed of all the changes that take place in the leadership of our church colleges. We do extend our congratulations and best wishes to William Spencer Litterick on the occasion of his inauguration as President of Kueka College, October 2nd, 1959; to Ralph W. Mohney who will be inaugurated as President of Tennessee Wesleyan College, October 3rd; and David A. Lockmiller who assumes the presidency of Ohio Wesleyan University, October 30th.

INAUGURATIONS

Under the auspices of the University Teachers Group at the World Student Christian Federation a conference on "The Meaning of the Secular" will be held at Bossey, September 15th to 21st. The purpose of the Consultation is to:
1) Evaluate the Secular, as a point of view toward the various disciplines in which university teachers are involved, and the description of their nature.
2) To discuss a theological understanding of the Secular which would help to find the Christians responsibility in and towards these disciplines.

CONSULTATION ON THE SECULAR

We are looking forward to sharing in this consultation along with Dr. J. Edward Dirks, Editor of the Christian Scholar.

A PROTESTANT PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

One of the chief reasons we appreciate the opportunity to share in this Consultation is that the Commission has arranged a discussion of "A Protestant Philosophy of Education" to be held in November by a group of Philosophers of Education and Theologians. Among those participating will be: Dr. Richard Neibuhr of Yale, Dr. Everett Kircher of Ohio State University, Dr. Harry Broudy of the University of Illinois, Dr. George Williams of Harvard, Dr. Donald Butler of Austin Seminary, Dr. James McCord of Princeton Seminary, Dr. Joseph Sittler of the Federated Faculty in Theology at the University of Chicago, Dr. John Brubacher of Yale University, Dr. Roland Frye of Emory University, Dr. J. Edward Dirks, and Keith Irwin of the Faculty Christian Fellowship. Later on we hope to report on both of these consultations.

Speaking of consultations, the Department of Campus Christian Life has set up a series of meetings to be held in Columbus, Ohio, November 2nd to 6th, 1959. These meetings will include a conference on the life and mission of the Church, meeting of the Executive Committee of the DCCL and its Strategy and Projects Committee and a conference of Cooperative Project Directors.

C. P. C. U.

The Council of Protestant Colleges and Universities is pushing forward in its plans and will open its Washington Office in the Building of the Association of American Colleges, October 1st. The annual meeting of the Council will be held in Boston, Tuesday, February 12th, starting with a luncheon and continuing through the afternoon. Speaker at the luncheon will be President Arthur G. Coons of Occidental College.

STUDENT MOVEMENT MERGER

It looks now as though there will be another UNITING ASSEMBLY to be held in 1960. This Assembly will bring together in a UNITED CAMPUS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP. This will bring together the Student Movements and Campus programs of the Disciples, the Evangelical United Brethren, the United Student Fellowship (Congregational Christian, E. & R.) and the United Presbyterian Church, USA. Reports indicate that students and leaders from each of these bodies are looking forward to the united program with great enthusiasm.

TEACHING OVER T.V.

A new interesting experience in Television Teaching is the Continental Classroom which during the coming year will present two courses for college credit, one in chemistry and atomic age physics. These courses will be presented over the NBC Network, sponsored by the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Chemical Society, and the National Broadcasting Company. A number of corporations are contributing to the cost. Teachers of the courses will be Dr. John F. Baxter of the University of Florida, and Dr. Harvey E. White of the University of California. Both courses will be telecast coast to coast from September 28th to May 27th, five days a week.

Some 300 colleges and universities have indicated that they plan to offer either one or both courses for credit and some 150 stations will carry the hour program. Participating colleges will furnish information regarding registration and prerequisites, tuition, credit, etc. Colleges may utilize this network program at no cost and they charge regular tuition fees to those registering for the course. Colleges interested in participating should direct inquiries to National Coordinator (AACTE), Continental Classroom, NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York.

RELIGION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Major Trends in Higher Adult Education by Cyril O. Houle, is an interesting study of what is happening in adult education. It is well worth reading by all those who take seriously the fact that learning is possible through all of life. Its brief but comprehensive presentation of the expert variety, complexity and problems in this field raises all sorts of intriguing questions. How long will it take us to realize that education is important at any age and maybe just as significant for the man of 40 as for the youth of 20? How long will it be before Protestant churches prove their genuine concern for education by a serious interest in adult education? We will not overcome our theological illiteracy and ignorance in many other areas till we do. Finally, if help in

understanding the relation of faith and learning is important for the student of 20 it is just as important for the more mature student of 45 who has never solved the problem.

NATIONWIDE PROGRAM FOR PEACE

The announcement in todays paper of the visit of church leaders to the White House to talk with President Eisenhower regarding his efforts for peace brings to mind the NATION WIDE PROGRAM FOR PEACE, being sponsored by the Department of National Affairs of the National Council. This is a nation wide program of education and action for peace to help church people throughout the fifty states to study and discuss world problems in the light of Christian responsibilities and international relations and to find more effective ways to work in redemptive love for peace and justice through freedom. It is being strongly supported by the churches, the Councils of Churches and other ecumenical agencies, as well as the Foreign Policy Association and Local Councils on World Affairs. It plans a series of leadership training courses which have been held during the summer, 1959, training seminars in the fall of 1959, then from January to June in 1960 Education and Action programs for peace in every possible local church throughout the country. Departments of International Relations and Political Science in our colleges as well as student groups will be interested in keeping in touch with this program. Write for details to the Dept. of International Affairs, National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, New York.

THE CHRISTIAN SCHOLAR

We just asked Wesley Stevens if he felt there was some particular articles in the September issue of the Scholar that ought to be mentioned. His reply was, "I think the whole thing's pretty good - it's a good issue starting with Ed's (Dirks) critique of the Episcopal pamphlet, The Faith, the Church and the University; the articles on Science, the World, and God, by John Wren Lewis - John Duley's article on The Work of the Church in the University; and Donald Butler's article, The Church, the College, and Human Values; as well as the book reviews." Among these reviews we might add is one by Michael Foster of Mascall's, Words and Images; a review by Bill Kirkland on some of the books on college students today; and Martin E. Marty reviewing Roy Eckardt's, The Surge on Piety in America. He's right, it does look like a good issue!

Useful not only for its lists of the available back issues of the Christian Scholar that are for sale and for the new address of the office of the Christian Scholar is the enclosed leaflet which gives you the new address of all the offices of the National Council and of many denominational agencies at the Interchurch Center.

THE NATURE OF THE MINISTRY

Graydon E. McClellan, Executive Director of the Department of the Ministry, leaves Sunday, September 13, for a five-weeks European trip on which he will visit projects where experimental patterns of Christian ministry are being carried on. With the help of Colin Day and Ian MacTaggart of the Tell Scotland Movement and Canon Edward Patey of Coventry Cathedral, he has worked out an itinerary in Scotland and England among leaders of the House Church movement and the missions to industrial workers. He will talk with members of the Central Advisory Council of Training for the Ministry of the Church of England in London about their concept of theological education. He will have interviews with ecumenical leaders and Swiss pastors in Geneva regarding emerging patterns and concepts of Christian ministry and will do much the same thing with Protestant and Roman Catholic pastors and priests to the laboring class in Paris.

Mr. McClellan's trip is being taken as a postponed travel fellowship in connection with his 1957-58 Ecumenical Fellowship at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Hubert C. Noble, General Director
Commission on Higher Education